

1920.

Annual Report

AND

Vital Statistics

OF THE

URBAN DISTRICT OF KNUTSFORD.

BY

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The Urban District of Knutsford.

ANNUAL REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1920.

PART I.

Nett Population at Census of 1911, 5,124.

Estimated Population 1920, 5,035

Number of Working Class Houses, 760

Number of Inhabited Houses, 1,135.

Average Number of Persons per House, 4'5. } At Census of
1911.

Area of District, 1,760 Acres.

Birth Rate per 1,000 living, 21'2.

General Birth Rate (England and Wales) 25'4.

Death Rate per 1,000 living, 12'9.

General Death Rate (England and Wales) 12'4.

Deaths under one year in proportion to 1,000 Births, 65.

Deaths under one year in proportion to 1,000 Births through-
out England and Wales, 80.

The Total Number of Deaths was 65, of which 7 were
children under one year old, and 27 were persons of
over 65 years.

PART II.—TABLES.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1920 and Previous Years.

YEAR.	Gross Population. Nett Population estimated to Middle of each Year.		BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.			TRANSFER-ABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
			Uncorrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.		
				Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.	
1911	5983	5124	126	113	22·0	113	...	54	4	9	80	63	12·3	
1912	6027	5168	111	96	18·6	120	...	57	4	9	94	67	13·0	
1913	5831	5212	131	120	23·0	105	...	51	4	8	67	58	10·8	
1914	5734	5223	111	104	19·9	97	...	44	9	11	106	62	11·6	
1915	5379	4917	102	94	19·1	109	...	61	14	6	64	62	12·3	
1916	5814	4892	97	88	18·0	142	...	43	5	4	45	61	12·1	
1917	5814	4892	82	73	14·9	151	...	97	7	5	68	61	12·1	
1918	For birth-rate 5299		80	68	12·47	112	...	59	10	3	45	63	13·25	
	For death-rate 4754													
1919	For birth-rate 5044		85	76	14·78	113	...	56	10	1	13	67	13·8	
	For death-rate 4842													
1920	5035		116	107	21·2	100	...	44	9	7	65	65	12·9	

TABLE II.

Cases of Diseases notified under Acts and Orders 1920.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.							TOTAL CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.		65 and upwards.
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera—Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	5	...	...	1	...	3	1	...
Scarlet Fever	4	...	4	...	...	...	...	3
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	2
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Polionmyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis...	6	...	...	3	2	1	...	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ...	4	...	...	1	2	1	...	...
Malaria ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Totals ...	24	...	5	5	7	6	1	7

TABLE III.

Deaths Registered during the Calendar Year 1920 classified by age and cause.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "non-Residents" in Institutions in the District.
		All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 & under 2 years.	2 & under 5 years.	5 & under 15 years.	15 & under 25 years.	25 & under 45 years.	45 & under 65 years.	65 & up- wards.	
All Causes	{ Certified ... Uncertified ..	65 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52 0
Enteric Fever	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	...	8	...	...	...	...	2	4	1	1	2
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	...	4
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Organic Heart Disease	...	7	...	...	...	...	1	3	3	...	6
Bronchitis	...	5	1	...	1	...	...	...	3	...	7
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	4	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	1
Other Diseases of Respira- tory Organs	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Nephritis & Bright's Disease	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Other Accidents and Dis- eases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...	2	..	..	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, includ- ing Premature Birth	...	4	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	...	5	...	...	1	...	...	2	2	...	3
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Defined Diseases	...	14	...	...	...	...	...	2	12	...	28
Diseases ill-defined or un- known	...	3	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	...	65	7	2	2	...	3	12	12	27	52

TABLE IV.

Infant Mortality.

1920. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 4 Weeks.	4 Weeks and under 3 Months.	3 Months and under 6 Months.	6 Months and under 9 Months.	9 Months and under 12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
All Causes.	{ Certified	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ Uncertified	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1
{ Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Abdominal Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Convulsions	...	1	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	2
{ Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
{ Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Gastritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Suffocation, overlying	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Injury at Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Atelectasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Congenital Malformations	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
{ Premature Birth	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
{ Atrophy, Debility, & Marasmus...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Other Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals		4	...	...	2	6	1	...	...	...	7

Nett Births registered { legitimate 101 Nett Deaths registered { legitimate infants 7
during the calendar year { illegitimate 6 during the calendar year of { illegitimate infants 0
Still-births 5.

TABLE V.

Births, 1920.

		M.	F.	Total.	Rate.	Of which Illegit.			Additional in Workhouse.					
									Legit.			Illegit.		
						M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
1st Quarter	...	19	5	24	19·3	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	2
2nd	„	13	11	24	19·2	2	0	2	1	0	1	1	1	2
3rd	„	14	14	28	22·0	1	1	2	0	0	0	1	1	2
4th	„	17	14	31	24·4	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	2
		64	44	107	21·2	4	2	6	1	0	1	6	2	8

TABLE VI.

Shewing Deaths, Death-rates, Deaths from Special Diseases, and Old Age and Infantile Deaths, in the Four Quarters of the Year, 1920.

QUARTER ENDING.					Total Deaths.	DEATHS.			Diphtheria.	Phthisis.	Other Tuberculosis.
						Rate.	At 65 Years and upwards.	Under One Year.			
March 31	...	...	...	...	18	14.5	7	1	0	3	0
June 30	...	...	...	..	19	15.1	6	3	0	2	0
Sept. 30	...	...	...	...	16	12.5	8	2	0	2	0
Dec. 31	...	...	...	...	12	9.4	6	1	0	1	0
Total	...	...	...	...	65	12.9	27	7	0	8	0

TABLE VII.

Notifications of Infectious Diseases.

(No records prior to 1895).

Year.	Small-pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas.	Phthisis.	Other Forms of Tuber- culosis.	Measles.	TOTAL.
1895	—	17	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	21
1896	—	5	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	11
1897	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3
1898	—	—	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	5
1899	—	62	—	3	1	2	—	—	—	68
1900	—	3	7	2	1	1	—	—	—	14
1901	—	7	5	2	—	1	—	—	—	15
1902	—	2	3	—	1	2	—	—	—	8
1903	4	7	6	1	1	6	—	—	—	25
1904	2	2	7	1	2	3	—	—	—	17
1905	—	2	4	2	2	4	—	—	—	14
1906	—	40	4	8	—	5	—	—	—	57
1907	—	52	4	6	1	1	—	—	—	64
1908	—	10	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	14
1909	—	7	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	9
1910	—	21	—	37	—	2	—	—	—	60
1911	—	20	—	8	1	—	6	—	—	35
1912	—	6	1	—	—	1	13	—	—	21
1913	—	1	4	1	1	2	11	7	—	27
1914	—	—	6	1	1	—	4	4	—	16
1915	—	9	4	1	—	3	6	6	—	29
1916	—	15	4	—	—	6	9	9	22	65
1917	—	39	3	1	—	1	10	2	32	88
1918	—	9	3	—	—	1	5	7	350	375
1919	—	10	3	1	1	1	8	3	20	47
1920	—	4	—	—	3	5	6	1	—	19

TABLE VIII.

Deaths from Special Diseases.

Year.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Whooping- cough.	Enteric Fever.	Diarrhoea.	Phthisis.	Other Forms of Tuber- culosis.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas.	TOTAL.
1890	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	7
1891	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	No	—	6
1892	—	6	1	—	3	—	—	2	—	—	—	12
1893	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	3	—	Records	—	6
1894	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	4
1895	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	4	—	—	—	6
1896	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	6
1897	—	1	—	—	—	—	8	1	—	—	—	10
1898	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	6	—	—	—	16
1899	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	4	—	1	—	9
1900	—	—	—	2	—	2	3	4	—	1	—	12
1901	—	—	—	2	2	—	3	2	—	—	—	9
1902	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	1	—	9
1903	—	—	—	1	2	—	3	2	—	—	—	8
1904	1	—	—	—	1	1	2	3	—	1	—	9
1905	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	3	—	1	—	8
1906	—	5	1	—	—	2	1	2	—	—	1	12
1907	—	1	1	—	2	1	—	3	—	—	—	8
1908	—	3	—	—	1	1	2	1	—	—	—	8
1909	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
1910	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	5	—	—	1	10
1911	—	—	—	—	5	1	3	2	—	—	—	11
1912	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	13
1913	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	—	—	7
1914	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	6	2	—	—	11
1915	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	3	3	—	—	8
1916	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	4	1	—	—	7
1917	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	4	1	—	—	7
1918	—	4	—	1	—	—	2	2	3	—	—	12
1919	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	3	—	—	11
1920	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	8	—	2	—	11

TABLE IX.

Cheshire County Council.

Tabular Statement of Inspector of Nuisances for the Year ended
December 31st, 1920.

The Urban District of Knutsford.

Nature of Inspections Made.	A Number	B Number of Notices served.		C Result of Service of Notices.			
		Statu- tory.	Inform- al.	Notices compli- ed with.	Remain- ing in hand	Prosecutions, Insti- tuted.	Pend- ing.
1. Dwelling Houses (general inspections) ...	115	24	29	43	3	...	...
2. Cellar Dwellings ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Back-to-Back Houses ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Tents, Vans, Sheds, &c. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Courts, Yards, Passages ..	30	...	...	14	...	...	...
6. Privy-Middens, Earth or Pail Closets ...	305	14	38	38	3	...	...
7. Cesspools ...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. House Drainage ...	35	1	18	19	..	...	...
9. Ditches, Watercourses, &c. ...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Offensive Accumulations ..	23	...	5	5	...	...	...
11. The keeping of Animals (P. H. A., 1875, S. 91 (3)) ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. Offensive Trades ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. (a) Slaughterhouses (Public) ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" (Private) ..	45	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Other Places where Food is produced or sold ..	20	...	6	6	...	...	...
14. Piggeries ..	22	...	15	1	15	...	...
15. (a) Dairies ..	10	...	1	1	...	...	...
(b) Cowsheds ..	25	...	7	7	...	...	...
(c) Milkshops ..	10	...	1	1	...	...	...
16. (a) Factories ..	15	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Workshops ..	10	...	...	...	...	...	...
(c) Workplaces ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(d) Outworkers' Premises ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Bakehouses (Overground) ..	39	...	7	7	...	...	...
" (Underground) ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Common Lodging Houses ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19. Houses let in Lodgings ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20. Smoke Observations ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21. Canal Boats ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22. Infectious Disease Inquiries and Re-visits ..	28	...	...	...	...	...	...
23. Miscellaneous ..	58	...	3	2	1	...	...
Totals ...	825	39	131	144	22	...	...

(Signed) R. WILSON MARSHALL,

Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE X.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1920, for the Urban District of Knutsford on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with Factories, Workshops, Workplaces and Homework.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (Including Factory Laundries).	15	...	...
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries).	39	7	...
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' Premises).	10	...	..
Total	64	7	...

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Found.	Number of Defects. Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Number of Prosecutions
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—</i>				
Want of Cleanliness ...	7	7	...	...
Total	7	7	...	...

3.—HOME WORKERS—None.

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Class.	Number.
Factories	13
Workshops	30
Workplaces (2 Laundries) ...	9
Workplaces (2 Domestic Laundries) ...	11
Bakehouses (1 not in use) ...	12
Total number of Workshops on Register ...	75

ARTHUR T. BLEASE,
Medical Officer of Health.

March 4th, 1921.

TABLE XI.

Cheshire County Council.

Tabular Summary of Sanitary Work during 1920.

Name of District—Knutsford Urban.

I.—WATER SUPPLY.

1. Have any extensions been carried out during 1920? If so please append brief note. *None.*
The water supply of the town is owned by the Knutsford Light and Water Co., Ltd.
2. Number of Samples analysed during 1920—chemically.—*None by Council.* Bacteriologically.—*None by Council.*
3. Are any, and if so what, parts of your District still without a proper supply of water? *Only the most outlying and isolated houses.*

II.—SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

1. Specify any new works of sewerage carried out during 1920. *None.*
2. Are any, and if so what, parts of your District still without a proper system of sewers? *Only the isolated parts of the District.*
3. Have there been any complaints to your knowledge during 1920 as to the disposal works? *None.*
4. Have any alterations or extensions taken place to your knowledge in the disposal works during 1920. *None.*

III.—HOUSING.

1. Number of new houses built during 1920. *Two.*
2. Number of dwelling-houses inspected under s. 17 Act of 1909. *None.*
3. Number of such houses considered unfit for habitation. *None.*
4. Number of representations made to Local Authority. *None.*
5. Number of closing orders made by Local Authority. *None.*
6. Number of houses where defects remedied *without* closing orders being made. *None under above Act.*

7. Number of houses where defects remedied *after* closing orders made. *None.*
8. Estimated or ascertained number of houses within limits of rent in s. 14 of Act of 1909. 731.
9. Number of such houses in respect of which notice was served during 1920. *None.*
10. Number of such houses closed after notice. *None.*
11. Number of such houses where Local Authority has executed necessary repairs, &c. *None.*
12. Approximate number of back-to-back houses in District. 14.
13. Approximate number of cellar dwellings in District. *None.*
14. What number of dwelling-houses for the working classes has your Council decided are required under the recent Housing Act? 100.

IV. TOWN PLANNING.

Has any scheme of Town Planning been put forward during 1920 for your District or any part thereof? If so please make brief note of (a) part of District covered by Scheme *No.*

V. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

1. Has a Health Visitor been appointed? *Yes, part time*
2. Are all new births which need visitation seen by Health Visitor? *Yes.* If so, how often? *More than once a month.*
3. Have you any Maternity Centre, Babies' Welcome, Day Nursery, Infant Consultation, School for Mothers, &c., in your District? *Council's Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.*
4. If the Health Visitor does other work please give brief particulars *District Nurse.*

(Signed) ARTHUR T. BLEASE.

March 12th, 1921.

The Urban District of Knutsford.

PART III.

Water Supply.—This is derived from Pedley and Marthall Brooks, which are impounded and filtered by a private company. There has never been any reason to attribute any outbreak of disease to the water supply, but on inspection of the brooks a number of places where serious pollution was taking place were discovered. One of these was in the Knutsford area and is being dealt with, formal notices having been served on the owner. One was in the Bucklow Rural District and is being attended to. Several others were in the Macclesfield Rural District, and by order of the Council an official letter was sent to the Clerk of that authority. The reply received was not very satisfactory, and further pressure will probably be necessary. In the meantime some improvement in the water appears to have resulted from the addition of sand filtration to pressure filtration at the water-works. Samples will be taken during 1921.

Rivers and Streams.—Apart from the above there is some pollution of the river Lilly, a small brook running through the lower portion of the town. This pollution is chiefly from houses which it is hoped to demolish as an unfit area.

Drainage and Sewerage.—*Sewage Disposal.*—Chemical precipitation (with alumino-ferric) and filtration are employed. The amount of alumino-ferric has been reduced of late years, as the cost is now £7, as against £2 15s. 0d. per ton pre-war, but both samples of effluent taken, one at 1-40 p.m. on February 16th, and the other at 2-30 p.m. on August 11th, were classed as good effluents by the Mersey and Irwell Joint Board.

Drainage.—A serious subsidence occurred in a length of sewer in Brook Street. A length of 46 yards was relaid with stone-ware pipes, barrelled in Portland cement concrete, six to twelve inches in thickness, and an additional manhole constructed, giving proper control of this length of sewer.

Closet Accommodation.—There are approximately 64 privies, 132 pail-closets, 149 waste water-closets, and 906 water-closets in the District. The progress in converting the first two types which I expressed hopes of in my last Report has not been made, but a large number of notices have now been served.

All ash-bins and pail-closets are cleansed weekly, and all ash-pits and privies about once a month, or immediately on request.

Sanitary Inspection.—For details see Table 9.

Premises and Occupations which can be Controlled by Bye-laws and Regulations.—There are no Registered Common Lodging-houses, no cellar dwellings, and no offensive trades.

Schools.—Nothing special to report. Disinfection when required.

Food.—*Milk.*—No complaints *re* milk supply, except excessive price. There are now fourteen persons registered under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order of 1885, of which six are cow-keepers, two cow-keepers and purveyors, and six purveyors only. Eleven are resident in Knutsford and three outside. All the premises have been periodically visited; lime-washing and cleansing have been carried out twice in the year. The cattle have appeared well-kept and in good condition, and the utensils clean. No structural alterations have been made.

Meat.—Slaughter-houses. No change. Inspected and found satisfactory. No unsound or diseased meat was discovered.

Other Foods.—Thirteen bake-houses; only twelve in use. Inspected and found satisfactory.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases.—The year's record is very satisfactory. No diphtheria and only four cases of scarlet fever. In one isolated case of scarlet fever, notified in February, the source could not be found. The other three occurred in December, and of these the first was contracted at school in a neighbouring town, and the other two were infected from the first. There was no typhoid fever. Three cases of puerperal fever occurred, two of which were fatal. There did not appear to be any proof of conveyance of infection between them. Seven bacteriological examinations were made, all in suspected cases of diphtheria, and all with negative results, by Professor Delépine, of the Manchester Public Health Laboratory. Diphtheria antitoxin is available day or night, free of charge (in suitable cases) as explained in last year's Report.

Tuberculosis.—A total of seven cases. Of these three were in institutions, one being in the Workhouse Infirmary, one in the Ordination Test School, and one in an Asylum at Lancaster. One was a surgical case notified from a Manchester Hospital, one was an extremely acute and rapidly fatal case, and the remaining two were provided with sanatorium treatment, one at Talgarth by the County Council, and one at Baguley by the County Council, acting through the Bucklow Joint Hospital Board. Tuberculosis death-rate 1·6 per 1000 persons living.

Venereal Diseases.—No local scheme or County Council Centre, and no need for them.

Small-pox.—No cases occurred, and no vaccinations were performed under the Public Health (Small-pox Prevention) Regulations 1917. Owing to a number of cases of the disease having occurred in towns not far distant, a number of placards, warning the public of the advisability of being vaccinated, were posted in the town.

Pneumonia.—Of the four cases of pneumonia notified, and which appear in Table 2, one was described as being influenzal, but later on proved to be tuberculous, and appears also under that heading. It does not seem that any useful purpose is served by the notification of pneumonia, but at present it is the duty of medical practitioners to notify, and therefore it is unsatisfactory to note that, deducting the one tuberculous case referred to, there were actually more deaths certified as due to pneumonia than there were cases notified.

Maternity and Child Welfare.—The Council's scheme has been in full work during the year. The Centre is under the direct supervision of Dr. Lees. It has been open on alternate Monday afternoons, when 69 children have made 308 attendances, being an average of 12·5 per session. Dr. Lees is assisted by Miss Johnstone, the Health Visitor, who is also District Nurse. As District Nurse she acts under a Voluntary Committee, some members of which attend at the Centre and provide tea. The Council is represented on that Committee by two ladies appointed by the Council. The Health Visitor paid a total of 1937 visits during 1920, the number of first visits being 94. A history of every child is kept on a separate card, and this can be used by the Education Authorities when the child reaches school-age, if they so desire. The scheme is a very satisfactory one. It is infinitely better to have this local scheme in which there is a Health Visitor who can and does know practically every child and its home conditions, and who can, if necessary, go to a house two or three days consecutively to see that some instruction is really being heeded, than to be a small part of a larger scheme where the Health Visitor, having a large area to cover, would visit the town every two or three weeks, and, having made some suggestion to a mother, would not be able to call next day to see it was being acted upon. It might easily happen that her discovery at her next visit that the funeral was over, would be her first intimation that the mother had either not heeded or not understood the advice given her. As was to be expected the Infantile Mortality Figure has risen above the extraordinarily low figure reached in 1919. It now stands at the still very low figure of 65 per thousand births.

The corresponding figure for England and Wales as a whole is 80. Details of infantile deaths appear in Table 4 ; but it should in fairness be stated that two of the seven were " transferred " deaths. They occurred at one and five days old respectively in a Manchester Hospital where the mothers went on account of some abnormality of parturition. There were five still-births during the year and inquiries have been made into them. Occasionally a mother who comes to the Centre with her baby receives some advice about herself, but the number of such is small and there have been no expectant mothers coming entirely for themselves. This will, I think, always be so, because with only about a hundred births per annum there cannot be many mothers requiring to attend, and it is obvious that the attendance of lay helpers and the number of other women at the Centre, which are actually inducements to the mothers to bring their babies, will tend to discourage them from referring to their own ailments. The Centre is available for nursing and expectant mothers and they are encouraged to come, but they will, I am sure, (and I quite agree with them) always consider that having a reasonably healthy baby weighed and comparing its progress with other babies is suitably done at the Centre, but that their own illnesses are more properly dealt with by their own doctor privately. The one is a matter for discussion and instruction in which all may share, the other is a question of individual medical treatment.

Sanitary Administration—*Staff*.—Mr. Marshall, the Surveyor and Inspector, continues to be the only Official of the Health Department except myself, but early in 1921 a clerk is to be added. There is a Measles Visitor retained by the Council to act when required, but she has not been required during 1920. Mr. Marshall, owing to illness, was away from duty for several months, and the essential duties during his absence were efficiently performed by Mr. R. C. Cordon, by kind permission of his employers the Bucklow Rural District Council, for whom he is Highways' Surveyor.

Hospital Accommodation.—All Infectious Diseases, including small-pox, have their treatment provided for in Manchester through the Bucklow Joint Hospital Board, of which Knutsford is a constituent authority,

Local Acts.—None.

General Adoptive Acts.—The Acts adopted are the Infectious Diseases Prevention Act ; Parts II. and III. ; P.H.A. Amendment Act 1890 ; and some sections of P.H.A. Amendment Act 1907.

Laboratory Work.—See under Infectious Diseases.

Housing.—Two new working-class houses have been completed during the year. There is a shortage of about 100 houses in the opinion of the Council, and their Housing Scheme is framed accordingly.

There is definite overcrowding in about 25 houses. No action has been taken in cases of overcrowding for the simple and sufficient reason that at present overcrowding is unavoidable. The *general* standard of Housing in the District, apart from some very bad cases, is at least as good as in most old towns.

While there is much in Knutsford which one would wish to see improved, and which could be improved if expense were no object either to the Council or to property owners, the most ardent reformer must admit that the present is a time for economy, and therefore it is comforting to reflect that the statistics for 1920 do not suggest anything very seriously wrong, for

- (1). The Death-rate is only a few decimal points above that of the country as a whole, and 41 per cent. of the deaths occurred at over 65 years of age.
- (2). The incidence of all the most important Infectious Diseases has been negligible (this is far from being the experience of neighbouring towns during last year).
- (3). The number of newly reported cases of tuberculosis has diminished materially.

ARTHUR T. BLEASE,

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APPENDICES.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

STATISTICS.

Year ended 31st December, 1920.

1.—General.

(1)	Estimated population	5035
(2)	General death-rate	...	...	...	12·9
(3)	Death-rate from tuberculosis	..	...	...	1·6
(4)	Infantile mortality	...	...	...	65
(5)	Number of dwelling-houses of all classes	...	...	...	1136
(6)	Number of working-class dwelling-houses	...	...	...	760
(7)	Number of new working-class houses erected	...	...	...	2

2.—Unfit Dwelling-houses.**I.—INSPECTION.**

(1)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	115
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	...	...	..	0
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	1
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	18

II.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	0
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III.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS. ...	0
B. <i>Proceedings under Public Health Acts.</i>	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	75
(2). Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied—	
(a) by owners	72
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners...	0
C. <i>Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.</i>	0

3.—*Unhealthy Areas.*

Areas represented to the Local Authority with a view to Improvement Schemes under (a), Part I., or (b), Part II., of the Act of 1890:—

4.—Number of houses not complying with the building byelaws erected with consent of Local Authority under Section 25 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919 0

5 —Staff engaged on housing work with, briefly, the duties of each officer.—*No official other than the Surveyor.*





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